

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:315
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006
EXPLORATION OF COAL .
Athithan Shri Dhanuskodi

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether new coal reserves have been discovered during the past one decade in the country;
- (b) If so, the details thereof including the quantity of coal reserves explored during the said period; and
- (c) The total amount spent for this exploration ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (DR.DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

- (a) Yes, Sir, Geological Survey of India (GSI) conducts Regional Exploration of coal (Besides other minerals) on regular basis to identify new coal resources in the country. Apart from it, Ministry of Coal also undertakes Promotional (regional) Exploration of coal through a plan-to-plan scheme for supplementing and augmenting the efforts of GSI.
- (b) The Inventory of Geological Resources of Indian Coal has increased from 201.95 billion Tonnes on 1.1.2006 (last ten years), with addition of 51.35 billion Tonnes of new coal resources.
- (c) As per GSI, total expenditure incurred on regional exploration of additional reserves during last decade works out to Rs. 213.38 crores. Besides, as reported by Coal India Ltd. Under the scheme of Promotional Exploration for Coal and Lignite, an approximate sum of Rs. 204.00 crores has been spent on completed and on going projects of Promotional Exploration for coal, in the last ten years.